

Minutes of Meeting

MEAC-SWG Call 19 – Monday 25 September 2017

The nineteenth call for the MEAC-SWG took place on Monday 25 September 2017 at 13.00 – 14.00 UTC. The call had 20 members and observers of the MEAC-SWG, 3 ICANN staff members, and 1 ICANN Intern.

On the call, we had Walid Al-Saqaf (Chair), Amal Ramzi, Farzaneh Badii, Chokri Ben Romdhane, Hadia Elminiawi, Hosein Badran, Ines Hfaiedh, Khoulood Dawahi, Mahdi Taghizadeh, Manal Ismail, Michael Oghia, Nadira Alaraj, Rao Naveed Bin Rais, Sogand Ghorbani, Tijani Ben Jemaa, Wafa Dahmani, Zahr Bou-Ghanem, Zakir Syed, Zied Bouzeri. And from ICANN Staff, we had Baher Esmat, Magali Jean, Fahd Batayneh, and ICANN Intern Ahmet Zamanis.

We had some technical difficulties during the call where some were unable to enter the Adobe Connect.

The agenda for the call was as follows:

- Middle East Space at ICANN 60;
- MEAC-SWG Session at ICANN 60;
- Other Updates on ICANN 60; and
- AoB.

Middle East Space at ICANN 60

ICANN Staff shared that two session requests have been submitted for ICANN 60; one for the Middle East Space, and another for the MEAC-SWG session. And while staff had requested a session on Wednesday for the space, the SWG session was requested for Thursday. The latest update from ICANN staff shows that both sessions might take place on Wednesday. This is not final, though, and staff will update the SWG on the date and time of each session once they are final.

The floor was then handed to Farzaneh and to Tijani who are leading the planning for the ME Space with the Work Stream 2 work on “ICANN Jurisdiction” being the topic of discussion. People on the call were of different views. While some felt that the space must submit an outcome document; to be submitted to ICANN staff and board, once the work on Jurisdiction concludes, others felt that by making such submissions, the work of the Jurisdiction WG can be diverted into a certain direction based on such input. The agreement towards the end was to move according to plan; i.e. to draft a statement, share it with the community for input, and submit it to ICANN by mid-October.

Tijani suggested inviting ICANN President and CEO, ICANN Board Vice-Chair, and Jurisdiction WG Chair to this session.

MEAC-SWG Session at ICANN 60

The Chair briefly reviewed the agenda for the session and noted that speaker Habib Yousef is confirmed as a speaker for the thematic topic on "improving academic engagement in ICANN". He also urged each of the responsible speakers to coordinate and distribute tasks among them in preparation for their

respective thematic talk provided the limited time they have to present their main points. There was a brief discussion around thematic topic 4 on "Side effects of censoring mobile apps on the DNS Industry in the region" and it was agreed that the speakers would coordinate among themselves to agree on how to best present this topic.

Michael Oghia also explained the motives behind topic 1 on "Enhancing MEAC-SWG's effectiveness & impact" particularly in serving as an opportunity for further outreach to present the concerns of the region within the Internet Governance space, particularly as the IGmena project seems to no longer be active. However, he also noted the challenge of having to remain within the ICANN mandate.

The agenda can be accessed at <https://goo.gl/9Vuxpn>. The SWG were fine with the agenda.

Other Updates on ICANN 60

ICANN Staff shared an update on plans for ICANN 60. A GAC workshop for Middle Eastern governments and GAC newcomers will be held on Saturday 28 OCT, and is organized by the GAC underserved regions WG. On Monday 30 OCT, there is the ISPCP session; which is a closed session. We also have the Middle East Space and the MEAC-SWG get-together as explained earlier.

This week, ICANN GSE Middle East Staff are in Dubai for a media roundtable and some outreach. Next week, ICANN Staff will head to Bahrain for more outreach. And leading to ICANN 60, more outreach will be conducted in the UAE.

Any Other Business (AoB)

The call was adjourned.